

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are present in this application. Claims 1 and 2 are independent claims.

§ 102(b) Rejection – Yamamoto

Claims 1, 2, and 5-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,041,192 (Yamamoto). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Embodiments of the present invention covered by claim 1 are directed to a digital camera having an electronic flash device using a light-emitting diode as a flash source. The digital camera of the present invention includes a non-volatile memory which stores correction information for correcting white balance of an image obtained by flash shooting using the electronic flash device, the non-volatile memory storing the correction information that is set based on a detection result of a color temperature of light actually emitted from the electronic flash device, wherein the correction information is for the light only of said light-emitting diode.

Applicant submits that Yamamoto fails to disclose a digital camera having an electronic flash device using a light-emitting diode as a flash device. Applicant submits that Yamamoto fails to disclose non-volatile memory storing the correction information that is set based on a detection result of a color temperature of light actually emitted from the electronic flash device, wherein the correction information is for the light only of said light-emitting diode.

The Office Action alleges, among other things, that an EEPROM memory 64 stores an information code 30Q and that main light source 42 constitutes the claimed electronic flash device. Applicant submits that the Office Action is in error.

Applicant submits that the main light source 42 is not disclosed as an electronic flash device. Rather, the main light source 42 is for reading an image recorded on an electro-developing recording medium 30. Figure 4 of Yamamoto shows the arrangement of main light source 42, and in particular LED 42b. According to Yamamoto, "...the main light source 42 is positioned so that lens 42c faces the upper end of the second recording area 30R" (col. 7, lines 10-13). In particular, Yamamoto discloses,

When an image recorded on the electro-developing recording medium 30 is read, the color filter 70 is fixed at a position to retreat from the support member 50, i.e., the side of the shutter 22, for example. In this state, each of the recording areas 30R, 30G, and 30B is moved between the light source 42 and the scanner optical system 43 in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis of the scanner optical system 43. Namely, the image recorded on the electro-developing recording medium 30 is illuminated by the light source 42 and formed on the light receiving surface of the line sensor 44, through an operation of the scanner optical system 43.

Applicant submits that it is clear that Yamamoto's main light source 42 is not a flash light source.

Yamamoto's electro-developing type camera does include an electronic flash 13 and white balance sensor 75. In particular, Yamamoto discloses,

A display device 68 is connected to the system control circuit 20 to indicate various setting conditions of the electro-developing type camera. The photographed date and time are indicated by the display device 68. Further, an electric flash drive circuit 69 is connected to the system control circuit 20 to control the flash operation of the electronic flash 13, and a white balance sensor 75 is connected to the system control circuit 20 to detect a color temperature of the ambient light around the object to be photographed. (col. 5, lines 53-62).

Yamamoto does not disclose that electronic flash 13 uses a light-emitting diode. Also, Yamamoto clearly discloses that color temperature is of the ambient light around the object to be photographed, not of light actually emitted from the electronic flash device.

With regard to the EEPROM memory 64, although Yamamoto discloses an EEPROM for storing correction data for the shaded correction (col. 5, lines 20-21), the information code 30Q as the alleged correction information is recorded in information recording areas 30L of the electro-developing recording medium 30 (see Fig. 3 and col. 6, lines 31-46), and represents information such as color temperature associated with the respective recorded image. Thus, the information code 30Q is recorded in the electro-developing recording medium 30, rather than the EEPROM. Furthermore, because the white balance sensor 75 is disclosed as being the sensor for detecting color temperature, the information code 30Q includes color information obtained from

the white balance sensor 75. Thus, the color temperature within the information code 30Q is not light actually emitted from an electronic flash device.

At least for these reasons, Applicant submits that Yamamoto fails to disclose at least the claimed electronic flash device using a light-emitting diode as the flash light source, and non-volatile memory storing the correction information that is set based on a detection result of a color temperature of light actually emitted from the electronic flash device, wherein the correction information is for the light only of said light-emitting diode. These deficiencies apply to each of the claims. Thus, the rejection fails to establish *prima facie* anticipation.

Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact **Robert Downs** Reg. No. 48,222 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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